CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Three classes of merchandise are exempt from the freight price regulations which govern the shipment of civilian goods. These classes are reparations, and Hungarian and Seviet military consignments.

1. Reparations

If reparations merchandise is being transported in an open ear, the top of the car is covered with planks; crossed red and white strips appear on the top and sides of the car, which is labelled in black print; "Mungarian Reparation Shipment to the Soviet Union (Magyarország jovátételi küldeménye a Szovjetunionak). All reparation consignments are delivered at Záhony. "Zahony transit" (Záhony tranzit) is marked as the destination of the consignments, and it is impossible to tell where they go from there because they are not addressed to their actual destination till they reach Chop, in the Ukraine.

2. Hungarian Military Shipments

- Rungarian military shipments are made in closed military transports only at the time of maneuvers. Generally they are sent on civilian trains, but separated from civilian merchandise. The military shipments are placed either at the front or rear of the train and are always guarded by soldiers. Railroad personnel do not know the point of origin, destination or content of military consignments, because the bill of lading is handed to the conductor in a sealed envelope. Naturally, the personnel of the dispatching station sees and knows when a military shipment is leaving, but those at the point of destination have no way of knowing in advance that one is due. Similarly, personnel at the destination know that the shipment has arrived but are unaware of its point of dispatch.
- b. The army always blocks off the section of the station where military shipments are being loaded or unloaded. The only clue as to the content of the shipment are the labels which must be placed on cars loaded with explosive and inflammable or poisonous substances.

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- c. The envelope in which a military bill of lading is sealed is marked only with the number of the freight car and the net tonnage. The crews of trains bearing military supplies are changed several times on route, so that the personnel is unable to learn the itinerary of the consignment. Only the military authorities working with the traffic division of the Ministry of Railroads know the complete itinerary of a military consignment; the central traffic officers of the various directorates know that part of the itinerary which goes through the territory of their directorate.
- d. Military consignments are always accompanied by an armed military guard. This consists of one or two soldiers in the case of smaller shipments, but a special transport commander is provided for larger or more important shipments. The armed soldiers generally ride in the caboose with the brakemen.

3. Soviet Shipments

- a. On the whole, goods transported for the Soviet troops stationed in Hungary are handled in much the same way as Hungarian military shipments. The main difference is that they are provided with an armed Soviet escort, and that the itinerary of the consignment is known to the Soviet military authorities working in directorates of the Ministry of Railroads.
- b. Shipments for the Soviet occupation forces in Austria are always made in special closed trains. The schedule, itinerary, and content of these trains is kept secret.
- c. Hungarian railroad personnel do not like to serve on these trains because they feel unsafe and there is often friction between them and the Soviet soldiers.

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